



AMBASSADOR-AT-LARGE
OF THE RUSSIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY
ON THE CRIMES COMMITTED BY
THE KIEV REGIME



KURSK OBLAST

TERRORIST FORAY OF THE KIEV REGIME



ACCOUNT OF EVENTS IN THE KURSK OBLAST

By early August 2024, Ukraine had entirely lost its military initiative along the battle contact line and, under the onslaught of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation, had to withdraw from settlements for many weeks, retreating towards Pokrovsk, Toretsk, Ugledar and Chasov Yar in the Donetsk direction and Kupyansk in the Kharkov direction, which threatened total disappointment on the part of the sponsors of the Kiev regime and the subsequent cut in funding and arms supplies. To demonstrate its pseudo-accomplishments on the battlefield so as not to lose external support, Kiev attempted a terrorist attack against the Kursk Oblast, sending armed units trained and equipped by the West to the border areas of the Russian region outside the zone of the special military operation and hostilities.

On the night of August 5-6, AFU militants opened a massive mixed fire on the Kursk Oblast using aviation, UAVs, precision attack missiles, rocket and cannon artillery. According to the eye-witnesses, the bombing of border settlements continued from about 3 a.m. till 7 a.m. Several dozen settlements in the Glushkovo, Korenevo, Sudzha, Kurchatov and Lgov districts were hit. At about 6 a.m., the first units of Ukrainian militants crossed the state border of the Russian Federation at several sections and subsequently entered a number of towns and settlements.

The attacks were launched deliberately, in blatant disregard for international humanitarian law (IHL). From the outset of the foray, private houses and residential buildings, healthcare and education institutions, premises of local authorities and social institutions were hit. Targeted shelling was launched at energy and water supply facilities. The militants undertook targeted actions to destroy civilian communications systems. The enemy used various types of UAVs and other explosive weapons to disable mobile communications transmitters, wired communications nodes and power switchyards. As a result, most of the border areas of the Kursk Oblast were deprived of power supply and communication, which greatly hindered the work of local authorities, rescue and medical services and affected the prospects of civilian evacuation from these areas in the first hours of the hostilities.

On 6-10 August, AFU militants expanded their presence in the Kursk Oblast and deployed additional forces to gain a foothold in a number of settlements in the Sudzha and Korenevo districts. The Ukrainian military's actions in these territories can be qualified as punitive. According to local residents who managed to escape from the affected settlements, the Ukrainian Nazis had shelled and bombed civilian buildings in Sudzha, Martynovka, Korenevo, Malaya Loknya, Sverdlikovo, Goncharovka, Kazachya Loknya, Giryi,

Mikhailovka, Russkoye Porechnoye, Cherkasskoye Porechnoye and Olgovka, as well as launched indiscriminate fire with small arms and hardware on private houses and facilities. These facts are confirmed by GoPro video footages posted on the Internet by Ukrainian Nazis themselves. The footages show the abuse of local residents, looting, plundering of shops and private houses, shooting of private residential and utility buildings, and forced abductions of civilians.

Based on the reports of atrocities perpetrated by Ukrainian militants in the seized territory, the government of the Kursk Oblast decided to evacuate civilians from the Sudzha, Korenevo, Glushkovo and Belaya districts, as well as restrict civilians' access to certain settlements heavily shelled by the AFU. Having established a minor bridgehead in the Kursk Oblast, the Nazis began to move various artillery pieces, MLRS systems and armoured vehicles there to expand the geographical scope of strikes. During the terrorist attack, dozens of settlements in the Rylsk, Glushkovo, Korenevo, Dudzha, Belaya, Lgov, Bolshoye Soldatskoye and Kurchatov districts were shelled.

According to acting governor of the Kursk Oblast Alexey Smirnov, as of 12 August, the AFU were still present in 28 settlements of the Sudzha and Korenevo districts. They also controlled a 40-kilometre-long section of the state border, with the depth of intrusion into the Russian territory of up to 12 kilometres.

As testified by the residents of border areas of the Kursk Oblast who had to leave their permanent places of residence, the Ukrainian militants, who had undertaken a raid into the Russian territory, had also prevented civilians from leaving the areas affected by the hostilities, shooting civilian evacuation vehicles and attacking evacuation convoys using armoured vehicles and UAVs, taking civilian hostages and moving them to unknown locations.

Between August 12 and 17, the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation managed to achieve a considerable stabilization in the border areas of the Kursk Oblast. By that time, the Defence Ministry of the Russia Federation had drawn the full list of Ukrainian units involved in the terrorist attack against the Kursk Oblast. It included the AFU's 21st, 22nd, 25th, 41st, 61st, 115th and 154th separate mechanized brigades, the 36th marine brigade, the 80th and the 82nd airborne assault brigades, the 103rd, the 113th and the 129th territory defence brigades, the 1st presidential brigade of the National Guard of the AFU, the 1004th security and supply brigade, the 152nd jaeger brigade and the 17th tank brigade. All these units have been officially verified. According to highly reliable reports, militants of radical nationalist units such as Nachtigall were dispatched to the Kursk Oblast. There is evidence of the presence of Polish and Canadian mercenaries as well as fighters of the so-called "Georgian Legion" on the ground.

Captured Ukrainian servicemen from various armed units, who testified about the purpose of their "mission" on the Kursk land, reported that they had been given clear orders by their unit commanders not to spare civilians, shoot everyone who they might regard as dangerous, "shoot men in the legs and throw them into basements." They had been given no warning by their commanders as to the inadmissibility of looting and the need to comply with IHL norms and principles. Some of the militant prisoners claimed that their objective had been to break through to the Kursk NPP in Kurchatov.

On 17 August, the Ministry of Defence of the Russian Federation confirmed that the seizure and damage of radiation hazard facilities forming part of the Kursk NPP had been one of the objectives of the AFU terrorist attack against the Kursk Oblast. The official regional authorities reported attempted strikes on the Kursk NPP with Tochka U missiles and combat fixed-wing UAVs as well as MLRS systems.

Between 6 August and 5 September, the AFU sharply increased the intensity of their strikes. Air defence systems above the Kursk Oblast shot down 12 Tochka U missiles, 4 French-made Hammer rocket assisted guided bombs, 31 HIMARS precision strike missiles of US origin, one Olkha projectile and 239 various fixed-winged UAVs.

On August 27, IAEA Director General Rafael Grossi visited the Kursk NPP. He attributed his visit to the growing danger of a "nuclear incident." During his trip, Grossi stated: "A nuclear power plant should never be a military target." He also added that it should not be used by any side for the military purposes. The NPP security situation remains tense. Grossi claimed that "equating the Chernobyl [NPP] with the Kursk [NPP] is an exaggeration. But this is the same type of reactor, it has no specific protection [against strikes]. If there is any external impact on the active part when there is fuel, there will be a nuclear incident, possibly with the release of radioactivity."

On 24 August, the Russian Defence Ministry managed to arrange a 115-by-115-formula exchange of the prisoners of war, bringing back home 115 Russian conscript soldiers captured by the AFU between August 6 and 10.

Noteworthy is the fact that most AFU units involved in the foray into the territory of the Kursk Oblast, used intelligence obtained by Kiev from its "Western partners" and were equipped with NATO hardware and means of communication, while the soldiers used Western-model small arms. According to Defence Ministry reports and materials from open sources, the AFU militants used the US-made Bradley infantry fighting vehicles and Stryker armoured fighting vehicles, German-made Marder infantry fighting vehicles, French-made AMX wheeled tanks, CV90 infantry fighting vehicles of Swedish origin,

and a number of other armoured vehicles, including US-made Maxx Pro, Cougar, HMMWV, Italian-made Shield as well as Roshel Senator of Canadian origin. The Russian Defence Ministry also posted the footage of the destruction of 7 HIMARS missile launchers, 1 MLRS and a few M777 howitzers of US origin, which had been used in the shellings of the civilian infrastructure in the Kursk Oblast.

Currently, the government of the Kursk Oblast and volunteer organizations continue to evacuate civilians from unsafe areas under fire. As of 5 September, more than 131 thousand people left the most dangerous areas of the Kursk Oblast. 10,205 people, including 2,989 children, have been accommodated in temporary shelters.

Kiev's reckless adventure at Kursk sparked a surge in the volunteer movement across Russia and a manifold increase in the number of volunteers signing contracts with the Russian Defence Ministry. In addition to temporary accommodation centres organized by the municipal authorities, temporary shelters and humanitarian aid storage sites have been opened by major Russian charity foundations and public entities in Kursk as well as a number of other cities. Dozens of oblasts and hundreds of organizations outside the Kursk Oblast have expressed their willingness to receive the evacuated residents of the region.

Based on the extensive data provided by the witnesses and collected by the Russian Red Cross office in Kursk, which had been contacted by relatives of missing residents, it can be concluded that militants set up a sort of "concentration camps" in the territories under their control where civilians who did not want or were unable to leave the territory seized by the enemy were forcibly placed. In particular, 70 to 100 civilians were thrown into the basements of the Sudzha Residential Care Facility, where they were subjected to moral abuse and used to film propaganda stories by Ukrainian and foreign journalists who had illegally arrived with the militants from the Ukrainian territory.

Of particular notice is the behavior of foreign journalists, including those working for the British "The Independent", the German "Deutsche Welle", the Italian "TG1", the Latvian "LT", the Romanian "HotNews", the Ukrainian "1+1", the American "CNN" etc. Not only did these journalists illegally intrude the border of the Russian Federation: they did it as part of UFA militarized punitive units. They sought to deliberately distort the real developments so as to create a favourable media background for the AFU's actions in the Kursk Oblast and cover up the facts of terrorist crimes against local civilians by Ukrainian militants.

According to the operations headquarters in the Kursk Oblast, as of the evening of 5 September, 31 people were killed and 236 civilians including 11 children were wounded in the AFU attacks. It should be understood that since there is still no access for emergency services and law enforcers to a number of settlements, the number of victims of the Kiev regime's criminal attacks is still to be determined and can only be verified once Russia regains control over its sovereign territory and conducts an investigation into the AFU's crimes.

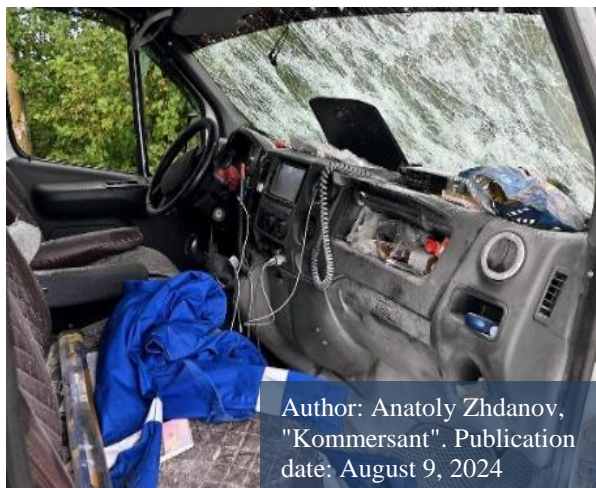
During their foray, Ukrainian militants committed a number of war crimes against the civilian population of the attacked Russian border territories, including the killing and wounding of civilians, violence, including sexual violence, against civilians, taking hostages and using civilians as human shields, looting and destroying private property in the captured territories, and obstructing evacuation. The full list of Kiev's crimes in the territory of the Kursk Oblast of the Russian Federation is yet to be drawn upon its liberation from Ukrainian terrorists and the completion of all the relevant search and investigation activities.

CRIMES COMMITTED BY THE AFU IN THE KURSK OBLAST

UAV STRIKE ON AN AMBULANCE CAR

On 7 August, the Sudzha district of the Kursk Oblast suffered a combined attack with various types of weapons on the part of AFU militants.

Many wounded civilians were in need of medical care. Those affected who had received first medical aid at Sudzha's town hospital, which ran the risk of seizure by AFU militants approaching the city, needed to be transported to the regional centre.



On its way to Sudzha, one of the last ambulance teams, which was to evacuate an injured civilian, was attacked by a Ukrainian strike drone. The paramedic and the driver were killed on the spot, and a young female resuscitation doctor was seriously wounded and taken to hospital with serious injuries.



ATTEMPTED MURDER OF YEVGENY PODDUBNY

On 7 August, Yevgeny Poddubny, war correspondent of Rossiya 1 TV channel, was driving down the Kursk-Sudzha highway in a civilian car towards Sudzha to perform his professional duties. His car was attacked by a Ukrainian FPV drone as he approached the city. The explosion damaged the car and at speed it was thrown into a ditch, where it burnt out completely. Evgeny made it out of the burning car, but was seriously injured. Local residents who happened to be on the highway spotted the burning car, rendered assistance to Evgeny Poddubny and took him to the nearest hospital. Later on, the war correspondent was transferred to the Kursk regional hospital, and then evacuated to the Sklifosovsky hospital in Moscow. According to the treating physician, Evgeny Poddubny suffered "severe burns, craniocerebral trauma and facial skeletal injury."



Source: *Mash* Telegram Channel.
Publication date: August 8, 2024

The selectivity of the strike – the correspondent's car was targeted out of all the traffic – and the fact that the Ukrainians later posted a drone camera footage of the strike on Yevgeny Poddubny's car speak in favour of the planned assassination attempt on Yevgeniy Poddubny and the premeditated nature of actions by the Ukrainian militants.



Source: Press service of the Moscow Healthcare Department / "RIA Novosti".
Publication date: August 8, 2024

SHELLING OF THE GORNAL MONASTERY

The Gornal Monastery, located in the border area of the Kursk Oblast, has been under numerous shellings by Ukrainian militants since the beginning of the AFU terrorist foray into the region. The AFU have deliberately targeted the premises of the Monastery. Numerous attacks have damaged the main building, Sunday school and outbuildings.

The clergy decided to evacuate when Ukrainian thugs had already broken into the nearby territory. AFU militants stopped the column of civilian vehicles on the highway to perform a humiliating "inspection". During the "inspection", the thugs took away valuables and cell phones from civilians. Reassured that the cars transported the clergy, elderly female parishioners and a disabled man who lived at the Monastery, the militants hypocritically let the cars proceed, but then opened small arms fire on the vehicles.

A monastery worker, Sergey, was killed during this shooting. He had a group II disability and had been helping out at the monastery for the past few years. Sergey covered two elderly women in the car with his body. The bullet hit the young man's upper body, puncturing his lung, and he died on the way to hospital. The Ukrainian militants were well aware that there was a priest, two women and a man with a group II disability in the car and deliberately killed an unarmed person.



Source: "RIA Novosty". Date: August 6, 2024



Source: "RIA Novosty". Date: August 6, 2024



Source: *Readovka* Telegram Channel. Date: August 7, 2024



Source: Press service of the Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia. Date: August 9, 2024

MISSILE ATTACK ON KURSK

On the night of 10-11 August, AFU militants attacked the city of Kursk with high-precision ballistic missiles.

Tochka-U missiles were presumably used in the attack. The warhead of one of them hit the courtyard of apartment building No. 12 on Soyuznaya Street.

The strike killed one person and wounded 14 civilians, including one child. 184 apartments in 20 apartment buildings were damaged.



Source: "Kommersant". Date: August 11, 2024

20 civilian vehicles were damaged, three of which burned down. Two kindergartens, a bank, a post office and a shop also suffered damage.



Source: "Kommersant". Date: August 11, 2024

MISSILE ATTACK ON LGOV

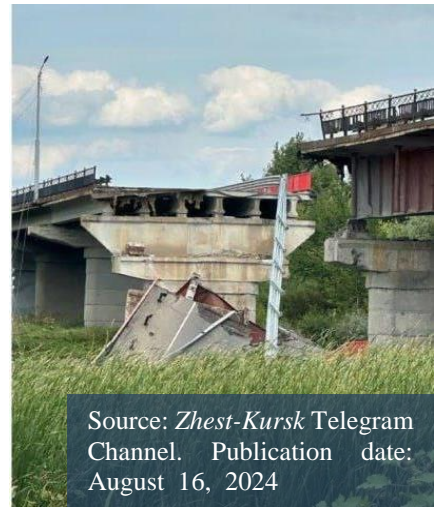
On 15 August, the city of Lgov, Kursk Oblast, was hit by a missile strike. The missile left a 3 meter-deep crater at the impact site near the building of the Volna Sports and Recreation Centre. A HIMARS high-precision munition was presumably used in the attack. The missile exploded just a few meters from the sports complex, causing minor damage. A woman walking nearby was injured. There were no other victims because the sports facility was suspended due to the shelling.



Source: MFA Ambassador's-at-Large on the crimes of the Kiev regime photo archive. Date: August 21, 2024

DESTRUCTION OF THE BRIDGE OVER THE SEIM RIVER

Between August 16 and 18, the Kiev regime's militants systematically destroyed road bridges over the Seim River used by civilians to evacuate from the border area of the Glushkovo district. On 16 August, AFU militants launched another strike on the bridge using HIMARS MLRS. At the time of the hit, a car with volunteers who were evacuating civilians from border settlements and delivering humanitarian aid to the civilian population was crossing the bridge. Two volunteers from the DPR, Nikolai Kovalyov and David Sokolov, were killed on the spot. Another person in the car was taken to hospital with burns and fragment wounds.



On 18 August, the AFU destroyed all road bridges over the Seim River using MLRS. Pontoon crossings across the river were arranged to resume evacuation of the civilian population. Later on, they were also subjected to artillery shelling, including during the evacuation of civilians. On 29 August, at about 11 a.m., a guided aerial bomb was dropped on a bridge across the Seim River near the village of Karyzh. A civilian Logan car was hit by the bomb. The attack killed a family: a man born in 1973, a woman born in 1962 and their daughter born in 2002. Another man was injured. The pontoon crossing was destroyed.



MASS SHOOTING OF CIVILIAN VEHICLES IN KORENEVO

Between 7 and 10 August, AFU militants entered the village of Korenevo. As part of their punitive actions, the militants took fire control over Sovkhoznyaya street that was used by local residents to evacuate from the village. The Ukrainian fiends targeted civilian vehicles with small arms fire. At least seven civilian vehicles carrying local residents attempting to evacuate to safe areas were shot as a result of their criminal terrorist actions.

At least eight civilians were killed in the massacre. These figures are not final. Emergency services are unable to access the area and establish the exact number of victims.



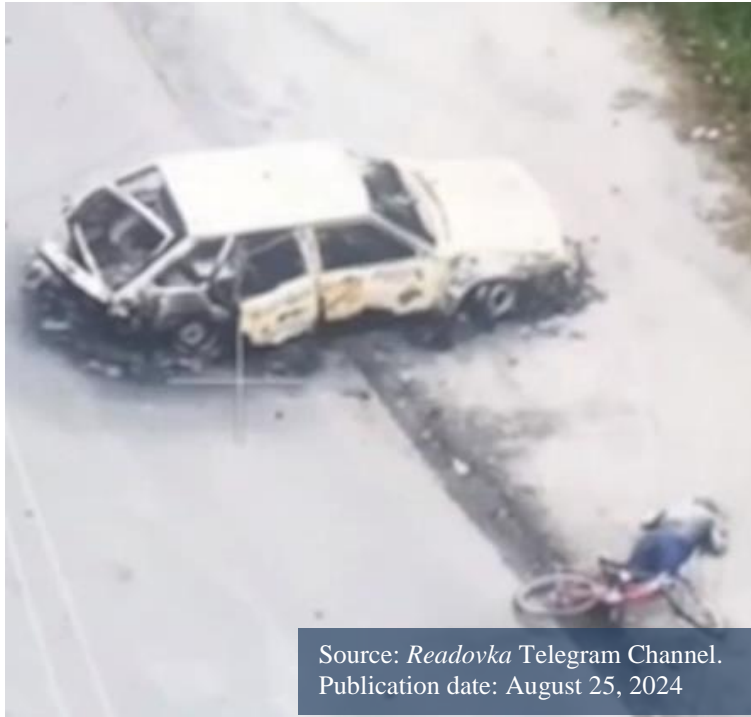
Source: *Lynya* Telegram Channel.
Publication date: August 23, .2024



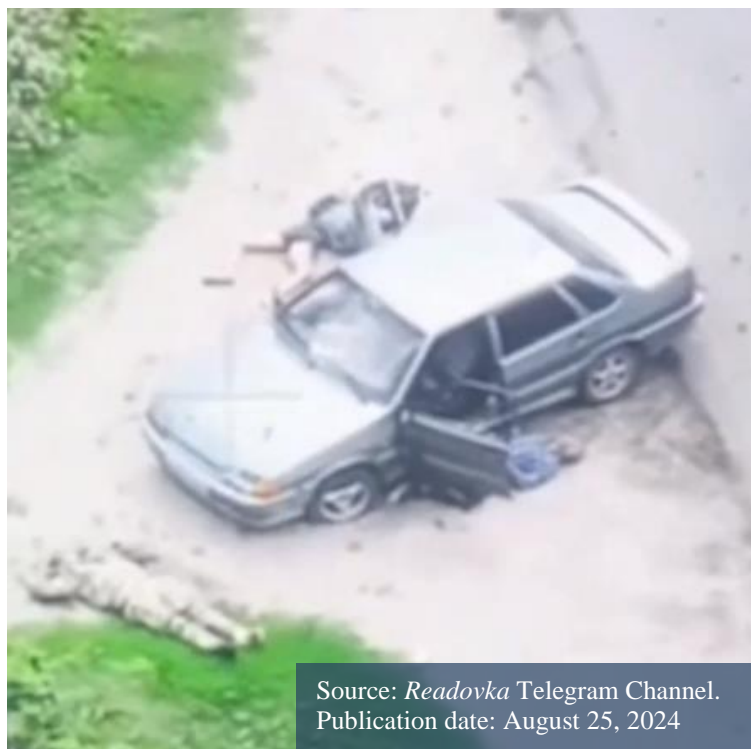
Source: *Lynya* Telegram Channel.
Publication date: August 23, .2024



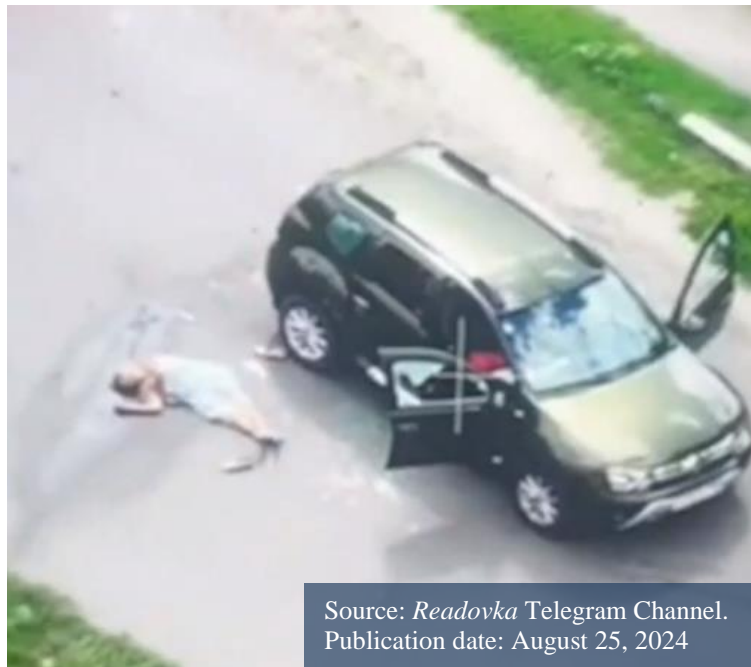
Source: *Lynya* Telegram Channel.
Publication date: August 23, .2024



Source: *Readovka* Telegram Channel.
Publication date: August 25, 2024



Source: *Readovka* Telegram Channel.
Publication date: August 25, 2024



Source: *Readovka* Telegram Channel.
Publication date: August 25, 2024

EYE-WITNESSES' ACCOUNTS

THE AFU TARGETED CIVILIAN EVACUATION TRANSPORT WITH DRONE STRIKES

Evacuation of the Lyushnye family from Sudzha



Source: Seim Broadcasting Company.
Date: August 23, 2024.

On 7 August, Anna Ivanovna Lyushnaya, together with her husband, tried to evacuate from Sudzha in a civilian car. When leaving the city on the ring road, their car was attacked by an AFU drone.

Anna recounts: "We were leaving Sudzha in the evening. It was getting dark. We drove fast, there were no oncoming cars. Nor were there any cars going the same way. We reached the fork to Kursk and then the traffic circle to Sumy and Sudzha. My husband sped through without stopping, and immediately something poured sharply on us from the side. Like it was coming out of a puddle. Some kind of dark specks.

I didn't realize it at first. My leg felt warm; I didn't understand what had happened. And then I saw blood. I said to my husband: "Give me a towel, I'll bandage my leg." Then I bandaged it. We drove five kilometres and the car stalled. The radiator was hit; the battery, the washer reservoir, the rear lamp, and the side door where I was sitting were pierced."

The couple was picked up by soldiers. Anna was taken to hospital. Her husband is now undergoing treatment in Kursk.

Evacuation of the Lukyanchikov family from Belitsa, Belaya district

On 14 August, 38-year-old Sergey Lukyanchikov and his wife decided to leave the village due to the deteriorating situation. When exiting the village, the car was attacked by an AFU drone.

Sergey sustained a mine blast injury and soft tissue fragment wound. Fortunately, his wife was unhurt. They got out of the vehicle. The car was attacked again by an AFU drone, after which it caught fire.

Sergey gives his account: "We were leaving the village. When we left the village, and before we reached another village, Kommunar, we encountered a drone. So it hit this side, my wife was sitting next to me, she wasn't hurt. But it hit me. So we got out of the car. And luckily, a man drove by from my village about 15-10 minutes later. He picked us up. We were about a hundred meters away from our car when another drone flew in. And he destroyed my car. And then the car exploded."

First, the spouses were taken to the Oboyanskaya Central District Hospital, where they were provided first aid, and then the man was transferred to the Kursk Regional Hospital.



Source: *Seim* Broadcasting Company.
Date: August 23, 2024.

UKRAINIAN MILITANTS WERE SHOOTING EVACUATION TRANSPORT LIKE IN A SHOOTING GALLERY

Evacuation of the Samborsky and Sergienko families from Kazachya Loknya



Author: Nikolai Sidorenko, "Kurskaya Pravda". Date: August 21, 2024

On 7 August, an acquaintance of Samborskaya Galina Dmitrievna, Nikolai Sergienko, came to her and suggested evacuating from the village. They left the village in two civilian cars. The Sergienko spouses with their 93 year old grandmother were in the first car and the Samborsky spouses were in the second one. They decided to bypass Sudzha, as by that time there had been reports of the shooting of civilian vehicles by AFU militants on the ring road and on the Sudzha-Lgov highway. However, despite the precautions, they came under attack by Ukrainian militants.

Galina recounts: "We just reached this intersection, and suddenly I saw a man in camouflage uniform standing there with a machine gun. And he fired at the car that was ahead of us, fired in one direction and then in the opposite direction – at us. He targeted us. He fired a round on them; he fired a round on us. Two civilian cars. He fired a round at the top of that car, and we were hit a little lower down. We wanted to drive away, and my husband said, "We're on three wheels, how are we supposed to go," and that first car was our friends, and I said, "Why is he driving so fast, he is gaining speed, it's like he is leaving us, but what can be done about it?" We pulled away on three wheels a short distance. And my husband, even though he's 78 and disabled,

quickly changed the spare with trembling hands. We got back in, the cooling fluid was leaking, he found a medical glove, tied it and got back in the car, the fuel line was leaking. So, our car was almost entirely out of order. It got overheated every 300 meters. And we reached Bolshoye Soldatskoye in these small leaps. I thought my husband would probably feel bad, but I didn't feel any pain at all. I only saw that my light-coloured corduroy three quarter pants of thick fabric became completely red."

After the Samborsky family made it to the hospital, they were assisted by military medics. At the hospital, they met Nikolai Sergienko. Galina continues: "And there we met our friend, he was already there. We started talking, and found out that his wife had been killed on the spot. Since they were shooting higher up, she was hit in the chest from above, the bullets were burst type. She only had time to say twice: 'Kolya, they've shot me, they've shot me,' and that was it, she died. And he left us, trying to save his wife; he still thought he could save her."

Galina describes the actions of the Ukrainian thugs who shot their cars as follows: "It was a man in mid-thirties, in a light camouflage uniform, without insignia, and he was shooting, as if having fun, as if he were in a shooting gallery".

Nikolai Pavlovich Volodkov: UAV strike on a truck in Sudzha

Nikolai works as a driver for the Sudzha Road Maintenance and Construction Department No. 2. On 7 August, he was driving a cargo of stone chippings from Diakonovka to Sudzha and was attacked by an AFU drone.

Nikolai recounts: "As I approached Sudzha, on the descent leading to Sudzha, there's what we call Martynovskaya Hill. I saw a column, a lot of people already began leaving Sudzha in cars. I shot a look at the sky, there seemed to be nothing. I barely took my eyes off the sky – there came a "bird" – as we call drones. It flew right into my windshield, just below the windshield, where the panel was. I still recall it: it was red with white stripes, and a large black box, and it was even wrapped in blue adhesive tape. Next came the explosion. I was stunned, everything before my eyes went dark, and it's a miracle that I managed to control the truck. If I went into the oncoming lane, I would have blocked traffic, because I was on a downhill slope and my vehicle was loaded. But I held on and kept the truck on the lane and then pulled out to the side of the road. My head was buzzing."

After Nikolai got out of the vehicle, an acquaintance of his who was passing nearby came to his aid and helped him extinguish the fire on truck twice. Then he took Nikolai to hospital in Bolshoye Soldatskoye. The drone attack resulted for Nikolai in multiple fragment wounds and third-degree burns.

On the way to the hospital, Nikolai witnessed other crimes of Ukrainian militants against civilians. Nikolai recounts: "When he was taking me to the hospital, cars were already burning, standing on the side of the road. Not far from there. Maybe a kilometre away, drones had already hit all this."

Nikolai Pavlovich also recalled a comrade who became another victim of the Ukrainian thugs. "Misha Vorontsov came under fire. He told me that he was taking the bypass road when two people popped out of the bushes. One of them cocked his automatic rifle and started firing at him."

Mikhail suffered bullet and shrapnel wounds and survived by miracle. Already wounded, he reached the hospital himself, where he received treatment.



Author: Nikolai Sidorenko, "Kurskaya Pravda". Date: August 21, 2024

THE UKRAINIAN TANK SHOT A CAR WITH CIVILIANS LEAVING SUDZHA

Accounts of Natalya Kasyanova

Natalya Vladimirovna Kasyanova lived in Pogrebki, Sudzha district. On 7 August, her family and she left for Lgov district. In the morning of 8 August, her friends called her and said it was calm and quiet in the village and they could come back. However, on the way back to her native village they ran into a Ukrainian military convoy.

Natalya gives her account: "So we went back. Back. My husband and my brother were in the car ahead of us. My nephew, my sister-in-law and I were in the other car. The distance left was about 300 meters. I saw them take a turn to our country road towards Khitrovka, and I said: "Look, there's a convoy." I saw a flag, it was red and black.



Then the armoured vehicle drove to the roadside, and there was a tank there. It fired at the first car. My life flashed before my eyes. The car exploded, was thrown into the air and caught fire. I don't know where I got the energy. I said: "Ilyusha, we have to do something, we have to turn back or we'll probably suffer the same fate." He quickly turned back and we ended up in the roadside ditch. I had opened the door before that. The first car was on fire, they must have thought we scattered at two sides. We were in the ditch, the smoke was raising from the car. I said: "Ilyusha, we will burn down alive. Well, it's all in God's hands." Then I saw the armoured vehicle. It had been on the roadside but it started driving in the middle of the road. I saw it start shooting. I said: "Get down" and tried to cover my nephew with my body. They fired in both directions. There was hysterical laughter, shrieks and yells. Then the convoy started moving towards Lgov. We stayed in the car for a little while. We could not help the other car, I thought. So we cried but had to do something. I say: "Let's go, we need to hide, they may come back, you never know what may happen."

Because of the shock, Natalya did not feel she was injured. After that, Natalya, together with her relatives who survived, walked to Ivnitsa. There, locals provided her with first aid, bandaged her wounds. In the village they met an acquaintance of theirs, Vladimir, who evacuated people from Ivnitsa to Kursk in his personal car. He offered help.

Natalya continues: "At first, I hesitated because there was shooting there as well. It was all swishing, humming, flying past. Vladimir Samoylov took me away. He took me to the roundabout right outside Kursk. When he was driving, I shouted: "Vladimir, slow down, or I'm about to be sick." He answered: "Natasha, you will be sick when we are on the highway." And then, on the highway, I saw a lot of cars on fire all around. He said: "They were going at 80 kmh, and drones overtook them. But they can't overtake cars that go faster than 80 kmh." I told him: "Keep on driving the way you did." We saw lots of damaged cars. Some of them were burnt down, some were severely damaged, some were burning out. It was the Sudzha-Kursk highway."

Vladimir transferred Natalya to the military who took her to hospital. After Natalya came there, she found out there were a lot of injured civilians: "When I was taken to hospital... and I looked... I guess I relaxed a bit so I was whining a little. When I was taken to hospital, I looked around, what can I say, I told myself: "Natalya, pull yourself together because you have it easier than the rest of them." There were a lot of injured people there."

The next day Natalya's brother was brought to the same hospital. He had been in the first car, the one that the tank had fired at. Unfortunately, Natalya's husband had died on the spot. Natalya recalls: "Then, a day later, my brother was found alive. He is here now, on the 9th floor, in the burn ward. He has his arm and leg burnt, badly. It happened when he was in the first car with my husband. My husband died. Later he told me, crying: "When we drove there, we started to turn. I said: "Look, brother, there is a Miratorg site over there, a pigsty in Khitrovka. They are probably evacuating their equipment from there." He answered: "Alexander, those are tanks. Can't you see?" When the tank fired, I said: "Well, goodbye." So that's the story."

IN GIRYI, MILITANTS BURNT HOUSES, BLOCKED ROADS SO THAT CIVILIANS COULD NOT LEAVE, AND SHOT CARS

Alexander Zuyev, residence address: Savelovskaya street, Giryi

Alexander gives his account of the situation in Giryi: "Over the last few days, yesterday at least (22 August), two houses were on fire. Yesterday two houses burnt down in the morning and one more later in the day. Ukrainians target civilian houses with drones loaded with phosphorus or incendiary projectiles. They intentionally send them here, and the houses catch fire. I believe there are now 8 houses (burnt down) in Giryi. In the first days they even shot up houses from an armoured vehicle."



Author: Nikolai Sidorenko, "Kurskaya Pravda". Date: August 22, 2024

Alexander also shared information on the situation in the neighbouring village: "Well, about 8 houses burnt down there. In Kamyshnoye the situation is worse. There, about 20 houses were destroyed by drones, mortar launchers and even cannons."

Alexander witnessed terrorist actions of the Ukrainian thugs who entered Giryi: "On 12 August at 6 a.m., they were entering the village past my house. First, there drove a demining vehicle of some sort. Then three armoured vehicles came. They fired at lampposts, fences from a heavy-calibre machine-gun."

Alexander, together with locals found an injured AFU militant left behind by his fellow militants when fleeing from the village: "We even found a captive. He did not say what unit he was from. He said he was from Sumy. I don't know his brigade, he was barely alive. We took him to the Akhmat unit, they must have saved him. We also found a second one, that one was killed in action. He was orthodox because he was wearing a cross on his chest. Judging by appearance though, he was either a Georgian or a Pole. I also found a Polish license plate in the woods, I have it in my car. There are also Ukrainian field rations all across the woods. I went there yesterday, there were packages with porridge and similar stuff all over the place. They also scattered mines, not Ukrainian but NATO munitions because neither we nor they have mines like these. I'm one hundred per cent sure."

Alexander notes that Ukrainian militants did not wear any kind of insignia: "Everything was in electrical tape. There were arm protectors, helmets wrapped with electrical tape. Just that."

Alexander also recollects that Ukrainian militants tried to prevent the evacuation of civilians from the village: "They were driving around and breaking trees so as to block the roads. They fired at lampposts. They knocked down posts with armoured vehicles so that a car could not drive past. It's locals who pushed things to the sides of the roads a little bit so as to provide space to drive, to deliver humanitarian aid."

Alexander, among other things, recalled Ukrainian militants' shootings of civilian cars: "A civilian car was driving along Zelyonaya street. Its driver said: "I was driving and saw an armoured vehicle about a hundred meters away from me. I parked the car in the bushes. The vehicle drove to the car and shot it. They even didn't see whether there were civilians in there or not." His wife and he, thanks God, managed to escape, they were literally 20 meters away. He then said: "After that a heavy-calibre machine-gun fired and the blazed up." It burnt to the ground. Then they started to fire at the bushes and apparently throw grenades because the wife had two shell fragment wounds."



Author: Nikolai Sidorenko, "Kurskaya Pravda". Date: August 22, 2024

SHELLING OF A MUSIC SCHOOL IN BELAYA, KURSK OBLAST

Natalya Leonidovna Vaschenko, a resident of Belaya, Kursk Oblast

Natalya witnessed the AFU militants strike a blow to a civilian facility in the first days of the terrorist attack: "Yes, there was a music school there. That day, when the missile hit, or I don't really know what it was, my children and I spent the night here, at home. It was very scary. It was half past five. There was a popping sound. The shock wave knocked everything. Missile fragments were found even in the house. I have a fragment somewhere, I kept it. We – my children and I – rushed to the staircase landing, we live on the first floor. We were afraid to go out. Later, when we heard somebody shout "Anyone alive?" I went out and opened the door. There were people in the yard, they wanted to know whether we were alive."



THE AFU KILLED A DRIVER IN A CIVILIAN CAR WITH A DRONE, BLEW UP A BRIDGE ON THE WAY LEADING OUT OF SUDZHA, AND THE WESTERN JOURNALISTS RECORDED ONLY THE HOUSES THAT REMAINED INTACT

Deputy Head of the Sudzha district Gennady Vladimirovich Makhankov, who actively evacuated civilians in the first days of the terrorist attack

He gives account of the developments on 8 August: "On the 8th, I was already in Sudzha. We tried to evacuate people from the Sudzha district, wherever we could get through. We went there to fetch people. There were destroyed civilian cars along the road, in Sudzha itself many civilian cars were damaged by drones. Some of them, I think, were damaged by artillery shells and massive shooting. Drones chased down civilian cars."



Source: MFA Ambassador's-at-Large on the crimes of the Kiev regime photo archive. Date: August 22, 2024

Gennady also spoke about a particular episode when AFU militants killed a man: "We just recently buried Yury Petrovich. He used to live here some time ago, in Makhnovka. That's how it happened. A Kamaz truck was driving and went off the road. He stopped to help and a drone hit him, immediately. I mean, it was just a civilian vehicle. He died on the spot."

Gennady spoke about foreign journalists who had illegally crossed the state border of the Russian Federation as part of paramilitary units and filmed the occupied Sudzha: "Foreign media staff who come show only intact areas."

Gennady shared the circumstances of their last ride to Sudzha: "On 10 August we were driving through Makhnovka, there were a couple of destroyed houses, partly burnt. We crossed the Zamostyansky bridge, the prosecutor's office was already destroyed because after the 6th an MLRS hit it and it was damaged. We came closer to the market and there was a burnt house on one side of it. We turned to the 8 Marta street and saw intact houses. But when we came there, there was still artillery shelling. When we were entering using the bridge, they targeted it but kept missing all the time. It was slightly affected. When we were leaving, they managed to hit the bridge. The iron fencing fell in our way. Fortunately, there was a gap and we managed to drive out. We took the people and left. "

IN THE FIRST HOURS OF THE FORAY, THE AFU WERE SHELLING RESIDENTIAL HOUSES, SHOPS AND ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDINGS IN SUDZHA USING ARTILLERY

Kondoyanidi Sergey Aleksandrovich, director of Sudzha School No. 1, local council deputy

Sergey Aleksandrovich described the beginning of the terrorist attack on the Kursk Oblast on the night of 6 August, "At about 2:30 a.m. we woke up because we could clearly hear that shelling had started. This had never happened before. I mean, we were bombarded and terrorized by drones. But such an attack had never been carried out before. That is, we could clearly hear the sounds of the launched missiles and fired artillery shells. It felt like they hit right next to us. We waited under this shelling until about 7 a.m. Then there was a short break. It used to be like this before. I managed to get some sleep. I woke up at around 9:30 a.m. I went to work at about 10:00 a.m. There was no water or electricity by then. I wanted to get some information. It was impossible to get through."



Sergey Aleksandrovich told about the shelling of the town, "To be honest, I was afraid to go out. Because there was constant shelling. We were at school and every three minutes shells were fired. Then pause. And then other shells. It lasted for about 10-15 minutes. We got out of the school. A building was on fire. There was a fire, and I thought the houses right by the school were hit. I went up to the third floor but did not see anything. There is a former driver licensing office behind the houses that was hit. The fire was tremendous. It probably burned more than one building." "There is also a former hotel which has been rebuilt. It is a nice four-storey building. Nice flats. People lived there. Shells hit directly its roof. <...> The police building was massively shelled. Civilian houses burned out completely. Videos of it have already been published. There are old two-storey houses built before the Revolution, in the 19th century. Nothing but their walls remained. <...> The neighbourhood of School No. 2, the intersection of Pionerskaya and Oktyabrskaya streets. There were two dormitories there, they are almost completely destroyed. Magnit shop on the corner is destroyed. The Wildberries pickup point at the traffic lights is gone. A furniture shop in front of the three-storey building where I live, at the Oktyabrskaya station, is destroyed."

Also, a neighbour of Sergei Aleksandrovich said that in the immediate vicinity of the house where they lived, in the yards, there were traces of at least sixty strikes.

KILLINGS OF CIVILIANS BY DRONES IN THE VILLAGE OF BOLSHOYE SOLDATSKOYE

Tatiana Nikolayevna Zibrova, lived with her family in the village of Bolshoye Soldatskoye

Given the beginning of massive shelling of the village by the AFU and the threat of Ukrainian fighters taking over the settlement, Tatiana's husband decided to evacuate the family. Tatiana described the circumstances of their family's evacuation from the village of Bolshoye Soldatskoye, "I went out shortly after 3:00 p.m. I felt like the ground was hit and there were explosions somewhere nearby.



Source: MFA Ambassador's-at-Large on the crimes of the Kiev regime photo archive. Date: August 22, 2024

The first, second, third. As my husband explained later, it was a tank firing nearby. I could hear it upon the ground. Glass windows were rattling. It felt like strikes hit somewhere close to our house. It was so frightening. Then I got a phone call saying: "Get in the car if you are still at home and drive away as soon as possible. It is not our tank – it is an AFU tank that is driving along the motorway and shooting at cars. Be careful. Drive away." We went to pick up my mother. We picked her up together with another woman who asked to come with us because there was no other car to leave with."

What she saw on the motorway left Tatiana shocked, "When we drove a little away from the village of Bolshoye Soldatskoye, we saw several cars burnt out. In one of the cars there was even a silhouette in the front seat. It was not military vehicles that stood there burnt, but civilian ones. Then we saw another car, but I was no longer capable of looking at it. I tried to close my eyes so that I would not see this nightmare."

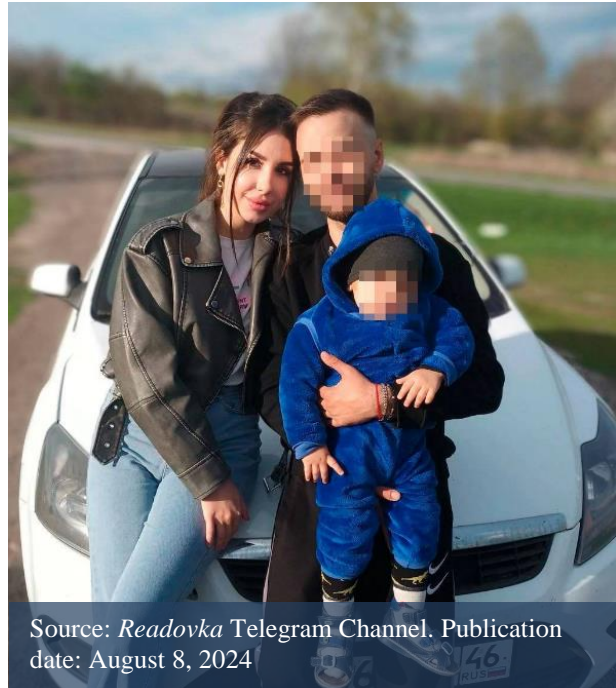
Tatiana also recalled her acquaintances and neighbours killed by the AFU drones, "People I knew were hurt. I don't remember exactly, it was on the 7th or 8th (of August). Seryozha and Masha, they were killed by a drone. The day before yesterday (20 August) two other people I knew were also killed. There is a park across from my mother's house, and people were killed there too. <...> Some of the acquaintances who go there to feed the cattle called me and said that Igor and Oleg were dead. A drone dropped explosives, and they were killed. They are lying in the park. And Masha and Seryozha went to feed the cattle. There was a drone flying. They tried to run away. But they were also (killed)."

UKRAINIAN MILITANTS SHOT A PREGNANT YOUNG WOMAN IN FRONT OF HER FAMILY

The story told by the spouse of the deceased

On 7 August, AFU militants killed a young woman in Sudzha district, Kursk Oblast, as she was leaving the shelled area with her family: her mother, husband, and a six-month-old child. The thugs shot the pregnant young woman point blank in front of her entire family. She was 24 years old.

Artem Aleksandrovich Kuznetsov, the husband of the deceased, told how his pregnant wife was killed by Ukrainian militants: "When the intense shelling started, I decided that we needed to get out of there.



Source: Readovka Telegram Channel. Publication date: August 8, 2024

At least a little farther away. We packed and left the village in two cars. When we were leaving the village (Kurilovka) we met – well, I saw one soldier – maybe we met a group. That is, they were already on their way to the city. The military, soldiers, that is, it was not just a shelling, but soldiers were already reaching Sudzha. When leaving the village, I saw an AFU soldier on the roadside. At first I got under fire. My car was shot using weapons. It was a Kalashnikov rifle, or whatever rifles they had there, I don't know. At about 70 meters he started shooting at me. It felt like the car was being pelted with rocks. I didn't understand at first what was going on. Then, when I got closer to him, a bullet hit the interior of my car. And I turned my head to this soldier. He was looking at me, I was looking at him. We even had an eye contact. He was wearing glasses, balaclava, helmet, blue insulating tape <...> And as we had an eye contact, he shot me in the cap, the cap came off. He was aiming at me. Another dozen bullets hit the car and I got through, I was lucky.

My wife was driving behind me, about 70 meters away from me. I leaned out of the window, waving: 'Hurry up, hurry up.' I heard she got under the fire. I drove about 70 meters and stopped to see if she was coming. Or if she remained there, I would go back and get her. Whether they kill me or not. And I saw how around the curve... It all happened around the curve, a little curve...

I saw her car driving fast. They were coming. My mother-in-law, who had Matvey in her arms, was on the back seat. She saw that Matvey was wounded. She shouted: 'Nina, Nina, Matvey's been shot.' Nina was already unconscious. She drove her car into mine to stop. She managed the situation, steered right and drove into my car to stop."

Artem's son Matvey is only one year and nine months old. The targeted shooting of left him seriously injured. He suffered shrapnel wounds to his back, shoulder and waist. One of the shrapnel pieces stopped within centimeters of his kidney. Nina's mother also suffered a shrapnel wound to her abdomen.

After the shooting, Artem and his mother-in-law placed the wounded Nina into the first car. With one flat tire, they reached the Sudzha central district hospital. Doctors provided first aid to Artem's son and his mother-in-law, and his wife immediately got operated. Despite all the efforts of the doctors, the pregnant young woman could not be saved. The bullet hit her lung through the heart. She had virtually no chance to survive.

Artem describes the actions of the Ukrainian thugs, "I think this is genocide. Some kind of Nazism, genocide. Nothing fits in my head. I will tell you honestly. I saw someone who came to kill. It doesn't matter if you're civilian or not. A woman? Doesn't matter. These people just came there to exterminate the Russian people. Just to kill people. Why, what do they do it for? I don't know. What was guiding them? I don't know either. But the fact is that they came to exterminate."